

Appl. No. 10/667,739
Atty. Docket No. CM2633MC
Amdt. dated 04/14/2005
Reply to Office Action of 12/14/2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition suitable for treating hair comprising:
 - a) an oxidizing agent consisting of one or more water-soluble inorganic peroxygen oxidizing agents;
 - b) a conditioning agent selected from the group consisting of silicone materials, cationic surfactants, cationic polymers, alkoxyated amines and mixtures thereof; and
 - c) a chelant;wherein said chelant is present at a level of at least about 1.6% by weight of the composition; and
wherein said composition has a pH from about 9.5 to about 11.
2. (Original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the chelant is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid chelants, phosphonic acid chelants, polyphosphoric acid chelants, and salts thereof, derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) A composition according to claim 2, wherein said carboxylic acid chelant is selected from the group consisting of diamine-N,N'-dipolyacids, monoamine monoamide-N,N'-dipolyacids and N,N'-bis(2-hydroxybenzyl)ethylenediamine-N,N'-diacetic acid (HBED), and salts thereof, derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof.
4. (Original) A composition according to claim 3, wherein said carboxylic acid chelant comprises at least two acid groups independently selected from a carboxylic acid group (-COOH), a sulphonic group (-SO₃H), an o-hydroxyphenyl group, a m-hydroxyphenyl group and a p-hydroxyphenyl group.

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5. (Original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of an oil-in-water emulsion.
6. (Original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of a thickened aqueous solution.
7. (Original) A composition according to claim 1, further comprising a salt-tolerant thickener selected from the group consisting of xanthan, guar, hydroxypropyl guar, scleroglucan, methyl cellulose, ethyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, hydroxybutylmethyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl ethyl cellulose, cetyl hydroxyethyl cellulose, N-vinylpyrrolidone, Acrylates / Ceteth-20 Itaconate Copolymer, hydroxypropyl starch phosphate, polyethoxylated urethanes or polycarbamyl polyglycol ester, trihydroxystearin, acrylates copolymer or hydrophobically modified acrylate copolymers and mixtures thereof.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) A composition according to claim 1, further comprising at least one oxidative hair dye precursor.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of treating hair, said method comprising the steps of:
 - i) contacting hair with a first composition comprising an oxidizing agent consisting of one or more water-soluble inorganic peroxygen oxidizing agents and a chelant, wherein said chelant is present at a level of at least about 0.1% by weight of said first composition, and wherein said first composition has a pH from about 9.5 to about 11; and
 - ii) contacting hair immediately after step i) with a second composition comprising a conditioning agent.

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11. (Currently Amended) A method of treating hair, said method comprising the steps of:
- i) applying a first composition comprising an oxidizing agent consisting of one or more water-soluble inorganic peroxygen oxidizing agents;
 - ii) applying a second composition comprising a chelant and a conditioning agent; and
 - iii) applying a third composition comprising a second oxidizing agent consisting of one or more water-soluble inorganic peroxygen oxidizing agents;
- wherein steps i) and iii) are separated by at least 1 day and wherein step ii) does not take place immediately before step iii); and
- wherein said first and third compositions have pH from about 9.5 to about 11.
12. (Currently Amended) A method of treating hair, said method comprising the steps of:
- i) contacting hair with a first composition comprising a chelant;
 - ii) contacting hair with a second composition comprising an oxidizing agent consisting of one or more water-soluble inorganic peroxygen oxidizing agents immediately after step i), wherein said second composition has a pH from about 9.5 to about 11; and
 - iii) contacting hair with a third composition comprising a conditioning agent immediately after step ii).
13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein said second composition is rinsed off hair before step iii) and wherein said chelant is present at a level of at least about 0.1% by weight of said first composition.
14. (Currently Amended) A kit for dyeing hair comprising a first and a second compositions packaged in different containers, wherein said first composition comprises an oxidizing agent consisting of one or more water-soluble inorganic peroxygen oxidizing agents and said second composition comprises a hair-swelling agent and an oxidative dye precursor, wherein the resulting mixture of said first and second compositions is a composition according to claim 9.